THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) As per estimates made by NBO the urban housing shortage in the country by the year 2000 would be around 14.9 million dwelling units.

(b) No city-wise estimates in this regard have been made by the NBO.

(c) and (d) Housing being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to draw up Action Plans to achieve the goals of reduction of shelterlessness in the country as envisaged in the National Housing Policy.

With a view to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in providing shelter facilities to economically weaker sections, the following Central sector schemes are in operation in various urban areas of the country:—

(a) *Shelter Upgradation under Nehru Rozgar Yojana*

The scheme envisages to provide Central/State Government subsidy & HUDCO loan for upgradation of houses for families with annual income upto Rs. 11850. Under this scheme, Central subsidy amounting to Rs. 805.09 lakhs has been provided for upgradation of 63,000 dwelling units in the State of Andhra Pradesh, as on 30.4.95.

(b) *Night Shelter and Sanitation Facility to Urban Footpath Dwellers.*

The Schemes envisages to provide Central subsidy @ Rs. 1000/- per beneficiary and HUDCO loan upto Rs. 4000/- per beneficiary for construction of night shelters with sanitation facilities in all urban areas for the benefit of urban footpath dwellers. In the State of Andhra Pradesh, 3 schemes have been sanctioned as on 30.4.95 to benefit 2976 footpath dwellers, including 960 in Hyderabad. In addition, 2 schemes for construction of individual dwelling units with Central assistance of Rs. 82.66 lakhs for the benefit of 3070 families in Vijyawada and Hyderabad, A.P. had been sanctioned during 1988-89 and 1989-90.

Besides these central sector schemes, institutional loan is available from HUDCO to the States for housing schemes for various categories.

Introduction of Electric Tramways

8461. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is encouraging largecities to reintroduce electric tramways;

(b) if so, what kind of assistance has been offered;

(c) whether any large cities have been selected for encouraging tramways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) Ministry of Surface Transport is proposing to introduce a High Speed Tramways system for the U.T. of Delhi. However, the responsibility of introducing tramways in metropolitan cities of States is that of the concerned State Governments. Ministry of Surface Transport will provide only technical inputs and advice for such projects.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.